to the State Government of Assam during 2003-04 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The matter has been taken up with the State Government of Assam for factual report.

Statement

Details of funds released to the State of Assam

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Projects 2003-2004	Districts/ITDPs	Amount Released
1	Construction of Roads, Bridges, School buildings, Community Centres etc. 161 Nos.	ITDPs of Tezpur, Goalpara, Guwahati, Udalguri, Majuli, Jonai, Mangaldoi, Nalbari, North-Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Dibrugarh, Kokrajhar, Dhemaji	
2	Construction of Roads, Bridges, School buildings, Community Centres etc. 87 Nos.	Proposal from Assam Tribal Dev. Authority	
		TOTAL	668.87

Tribal population in Tamil Nadu

2127. SHRI S. P. M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the tribal population in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of funds allocated during the last five years for welfare of the tribals in Tamil Nadu;

(c) how many Integrated Tribal Development Agencies are functioning in the State; and

(d) the responsibilities/tasks of these agencies for development of the tribal community?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) As per 2001 Census, the tribal population in Timal Nadu is 651,321.

(b) The details of funds released during the last five years to Tamil Nadu under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for welfare of the tribal people are:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Funds released
1999-2000	581.43
2000-01	334.72
2001-02	818.05
2002-03	663.29
2003-04	578.77

(c) and (d) There are nine Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu. The responsibility/task of the ITDPs is to supervise and monitor the implementation of projects/schemes under the tribal sub plan. The ITDPs also implement some schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

National policy for empowering the tribals

2128. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have emphasized on a time-bound action programme for formulation of a National Policy for Empowering the Tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made during the year 2003-04 as against the target fixed, State-wise;

(d) the number of tribals benefited by the action programme, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to complete the action programme within the time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH) (a) to (e) A national policy for tribals is under finalization. It seeks to answer all the